GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 447 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2024

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR LABOURERS

447. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL: SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)the details of the welfare schemes run by the Government particularly for upliftment of rural and farm labourers;
- (b)the details of the agricultural labourers benefitted by the said schemes in the Shravasti Parliamentary contituency of Uttar Pradesh alongwith the names of the Government Schemes for the upliftment of agricultural labourers;
- (c)the total amount allocated in all the districts of Karnataka State under the various schemes during the last five years;
- (d)whether any other steps being taken by the Government to meet the requirements of farm labourers with regard to comprehensive education, living conditions and daily requirements etc.; and (e)if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (e): As per the provisions of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act (UWSS), 2008, the Government is committed to provide Social Security to all the workers of the unorganised sector including farm labourers by formulating suitable welfare schemes on the matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover; (ii) health and maternity benefits; (iii) old age protection; and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government.

Life and Disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).

The health and maternity benefits are insured through Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) under deprivation and occupation criteria. It provides health insurance coverage upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs per family for secondary and tertiary care related hospitalization.

In order to provide old age social security cover, the Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) pension scheme in 2019. It provides monthly pension of Rs. 3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years. The workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs.15000/- or less and who are not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS (Govt. funded) can join the PM-SYM Scheme. Under this scheme 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government. Under the scheme, the funds towards Government's contribution are provided to LIC being the fund manager.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment scheme which provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Apart from above, other schemes such as Public Distribution System through One Nation One Ration Card scheme under National Food Security Act, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kaushal Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Gareeb Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan, Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana, PMSVANidhi, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, PM Vishwakarma etc. are also available for the unorganised workers including farm labourers depending upon their eligibility criteria. These schemes are demand driven and accordingly the budget is allocated.

Further, the Government has launched e-Shram portal in August, 2021 with an objective to create National Database of Unorganised Workers and to facilitate delivery of Social Security Schemes/Welfare Schemes to the unorganised workers. As on 31.01.2024, more than 29.35 crore unorganised workers have been registered on e-Shram portal.

The Right of Children to free and compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age of 6-14 years in a neighborhood school.
